

*** Orissa Subordinate Forest Service (Method of Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Foresters) Rules, 1998**

The 28th July, 1998

No. 15043 – In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Article 309 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Orissa is pleased to make the following rules to regulate the method of recruitment and conditions of service of the persons appointed to the Orissa Subordinate Forest Service, namely:

CHAPTER- I

1. Short title and commencement – (1) These rules may be called the Orissa Subordinate Forest Service (Method of Recruitment and Conditions of Service of Foresters) Rules, 1998.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the *Orissa Gazette*.

2. Definitions- (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise require:

- (a) **“Appointing Authority”** means the Divisional Forest Officer concerned;
- (b) **“Chairman”** means the Chairman of the Selection Board;
- (c) **“Department of Government”** means the Forest and Environment Department;
- (d) **“Divisional Forest Officer”** means the Divisional Forest Officer of the Division;
- (e) **“Government”** means the Government of Orissa;
- (f) **“Scheduled Castes”** and **“Scheduled Tribes”** shall mean the same as defined in Orissa, Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (For Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Act, 1975;
- (g) **“Selection Board”** means the Selection Board constituted under Rule 7;
- (h) **“Selection List”** means the list of suitable candidates prepared by the Selection Board and approved by the appointing authority;

- (i) **“Service”** means the Orissa Subordinate Forest Service;
- (j) Socially and Educationally Backward Class shall have reference to such class as specified in the notification No. 25455 – TW., dated 10.9.1993 of welfare Department and subsequent notifications issued in this regard; and
- (k) **“Year”** means the Calendar Year.

(2) All other words and expressions used in these rules but not defined shall have the same meaning as respectively assigned to them in the Orissa Service Code.

3. Constitution of Service – (1) The Service shall consist of the post of Forester in Group “C”.

(2) The service of each Division Forest Office shall form a separate cadre.

4. Method of Recruitment – Recruitment to the post of Foresters in the Division Office shall be made by the Selection Board;

- (a) by way of redesignation and merger of the existing cadre of Village Forest Workers (VFWs) as one time arrangement and the VFWs so merged shall not be treated as direct recruits or promotees to the cadre of Foresters; and
- (b) After such merger as is referred to in clause (a),
 - (i) by direct recruitment to the extent of 50% through competitive examination from open market and
 - (ii) by promotion to the extent of 50% from the rank of eligible Forest Guards of the concerned Division”.

5. Recruitment – Recruitment to the post shall be made every year preferably in the month of January.

6. Vacancies – The number of vacancies that will occur during a particular year shall be determined by the Divisional Forest Officer concerned by the first day of January of the year in which recruitment is made.

7. Constitution of Selection Board – The Selection Board shall consist of the following members, namely:

- (a) Divisional Forest Officer of Concerned Division Chairman
- (b) District Welfare Officer Member
- (c) Representative of the Collector of the District belonging to the Orissa

Administrative Service

.... Member

(d) Assistant Conservator of Forest of
Headquarters of the Division

.... Secretary

8. Reservation of Posts – The Orissa Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe), Act. 1975, the rules framed there under and orders regarding reservation of posts in Services for Sportsmen, Socially and Educationally Backward Classes, Ex-Service Personnel and Women respectively shall be applicable to the service:

Provided that no physically handicapped candidates shall be eligible to be appointed to the service.

9. Age- The age of the candidate shall be as a provided in the Orissa Civil Service (Fixation of Upper Age Limit) Rules, 1989:

Provided that the upper age limit shall be relatable by five years in case of Scheduled Tribe, Scheduled Caste and Women candidates, by three years in case of candidates of socially and Educationally backward Classes and as per the special provisions made regarding age limit in respect of ex-serviceman in Rule 5 of the Orissa Ex-Serviceman (Recruitment to State Civil Services and Posts) Rules, 1958.

10. Physical fitness – (1) The minimum physical standard of the candidate shall be as follows for different categories:

Category of Candidate	Minimum height in C.M.	Minimum chest in C.M.	
		Un-expanded	Expanded
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1. Scheduled Tribe	158	81	86
2. General and Scheduled Caste	168	81	86
3. Women	153

(2) The candidates shall be examined by the Chief Medical Officer of District to testify that they possess sound health and general physical fitness for arduous outdoor work essential for the service.

(3) The candidate must be of sound health, good physique and active habits and be free from any organic defect or bodily infirmity.

11. Select list – (1) The Selection Board shall prepare a list of successful candidates in order of merit on the basis of total marks secured. This list shall contain the names of the successful candidates equal to the number of vacancies. This list after being approved by the appointing authority shall be the “Select List” of candidates for appointment against the vacancies.

(2) The Select list prepared under Sub-rule (1) shall remain valid for a period of one year from the date of its approval or till the next Select List is drawn up whichever is earlier.

12. Seniority – (1) The inter-se seniority of the village Forest Workers (VFWs) merged under clause (a) of rule (4) shall be in the order their names appear in the select list and they shall enblock be junior to the existing foresters.

(2) The promotees shall be enblock senior to the direct recruits of the same year.

CHAPTER – II

13. Procedure for direct recruitment – A candidate in order to be eligible to appear in the examination for direct recruitment must satisfy the following conditions, namely:

- (a) he shall be a citizen of India;
- (b) he shall be able to speak, read and write Oriya fluently and must have passed on examination in Oriya language in M.E. School standard; and
- (c) he shall have a good character.

14. Educational Qualification – A candidate must have passed + 2 Science from a recognized University/Institution.

15. Allotment of Marks – The recruitment shall be conducted for a total mark of 100 (one hundred) and the distribution/award of marks for different tests shall be as follows:

- (a) Academic qualification – (25 marks)

The distribution shall as follows:

Category	Educational Qualification	Division	Marks to be awarded
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Candidates of all categories	+2 Science	1 st Division	25
		2 nd Division	20
		3 rd Division	15

- (b) Physical standard – (5 marks)

The mark will be awarded as follows:

Category	Height in Cm.	Marks
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(1)	(2)	(3)
General/Scheduled Caste	168	0
	169-170	1
	171-173	2
	174-176	3
	177-179	4
	180 and above	5
Scheduled Tribe..	158	0
	159-160	1
	161-163	2
	164-166	3
	167-169	4
	170 and above	5
Women...	153	0
	154-155	1
	156-158	2
	159-161	3
	162-164	4
	165 and above	5

(c) Sports – (10 marks)

Candidates possessing sports and Athletics Certificates shall be awarded marks out of full marks of 10 in the following manner:

(i)	Representing Inter-School Meet	...	2 Marks
(ii)	Representing the Circle/District in School meet.	...	3 Marks
(iii)	Representing the District in Junior/Senior/ Inter-District meet/Inter-College meet.	...	4 Marks
(iv)	Wining a Medal in meet under (iii)	...	5 Marks
(v)	Inter-University	...	6 Marks
(vi)	Representing the State in Junior/Senior/ National meet/wining a Medal in Meets Under (v).	...	8 Marks
(vii)	Representing Nation in International meet	...	10 Marks

(d) Written Test (40 Marks)

Written test shall be conducted in two subjects; i.e. Oriya Language and Mathematics. Each paper shall have one hour duration. Each paper shall carry 20 marks.

Note-1. As far as possible objective type question of Metric standard shall be set for the written test.

Note-2. Candidates securing minimum 50% marks (40 % in case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) in the written test shall qualify for the subsequent tests.

Note-3. Question for the written test shall be set by a Group A. Officer of the Forest Department not being a member of the Selection Board.

Note-4. Valuation of answer papers shall be done by such Officer not being a member of Selection Board. Invigilators for the examination shall be drawn from other offices preferably from Divisions. The Question Setters, Evaluators and Invigilators selected by the Conservators of Forests having Administrative over the concerned Division.

(e) Physical Test –(10 Marks)

The mark will be awarded as follows:

1. Male Candidates:-

- | | | |
|------|--|--------------------------|
| (i) | 25 Kms. Walk if covered within 3 hours | 8 Marks |
| | Between 3 hours to 3.30 hours |5 Marks |
| | Between 3.30 hours to 4 hours |Qualifying standard |
| (ii) | Cycling – 1.6 Kms. If covered within 3 minutes |2 marks |
| | 3 Minutes to 5 minutes |Qualifying standard |

2. Female Candidates:-

- | | | |
|------|--|------------------------|
| (i) | 16 Kms. Walk if covered within 3 hours |8 Marks |
| | Between 3.00 hours to 3.30 hours |5 Marks |
| | Between 3.00 hours to 4.00 hours | ...Qualifying standard |
| (ii) | Cycling 1.6 Kms, if covered within 8 minutes |2 Marks |
| | 8 to 10 minutes | ...Qualifying |

standard

(f) *Viva Voce* Test- (10 Marks)

Candidates who qualify in the written and physical test shall appear in viva voce to be conducted by the Selection Board.

CHAPTER-III

16. Recruitment by way of promotion – The Forest Guard shall be eligible to be considered for promotion to the post of Forester after fulfilling the following criteria, namely:

- (a) he shall have completed a minimum ten years of service in the cadre of Forest Guard;
- (b) he shall have minimum educational qualification of Class-IX standard;
- (c) he shall have a minimum physical standard prescribed in Rule-10
- (d) he shall have passed the Forest Guard Training Course; and
- (e) he shall not be physically handicapped.

17. Criteria for promotion selection- The promotion of Forest Guard shall be according to the merit with due regard to seniority.

18.Procedure to be followed for promotion- Provision laid down in Orissa Civil Service (Criteria for Promotion) Rules, 1992, the Orissa Civil Service (Zone of Consideration) Rules; 1988 and in Orissa Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Act, 1975 and rules framed thereunder and General Administrative Department Office Memorandum relating to Sealed Cover Procedure shall be followed while considering promotion of Forest Guard to the cadre of Forests.

19. Select list and validity- (1) The Selection Board shall prepare list of candidates suitable for promotion equal to the number of vacancies.

(2) The list prepared under Sub- rule (1) shall remain valid for a period of one year from the date of its approval of till the drawal of the next Select list whichever is earlier.

20. Training- One preparation of select list the for various categories, of candidates Conservator of Forests, development Circle for allotment of seats in the training institutions.

21. Approval for training- The Conservator of Forests, Development Circle after receiving intimations from the appointing authorities shall prepare a consolidated list of trainees for under going training School wise in different sessions and send the same to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Orissa for approval. After obtaining such approval, the Conservator of Forests, Development Circle shall notify the names of candidates for undergoing the training.

22. Allotment for training- The candidates selected from open market shall undergo training course in any of the Foresters training School for a period of one year with effect from the date of joining in the training institute to which they will be deputed. The candidates selected from open market will be paid stipend during the period of training as will be decided by the Administrative Department in consultation with Finance Department from time to time. The Forest Guards selected for the post of Forester shall be paid their usual salary from respective Division during the period of training.

23. Bond- The selected candidates shall have to execute a bond prior to joining the training as prescribed by the Forest Department.

24. Probation and Confirmation- (1) A candidate who is recruited directly or by way of promotion shall undergo the training as prescribed by the Government in Forest Department. Candidates who successfully complete the training may remain on probation for a further period of one year and on successful completion of probation he may be confirmed in the cadre subject to availability of a substantive vacancy in the cadre.

(2) The appointing authority shall have the power to terminate the services of direct recruits who has not completed the probation period to the complete satisfaction of the Authorities and who has not passed the training examination in two consecutive chances.

(3) The appointing authority shall have the power to revert the promotee Officer to his feeder Grade/ Cadre for not having completed the probation period successfully or for not having passed the training in two consecutive chances.

25. Relaxation- Whenever it is considered by the Government that it is necessary or expedient to do so in the public interest, it may, by order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, relax any of the provisions of these rules in respect of any class or category of persons.

26. Interpretation- If any question arises relating to the interpretation of any provision of these rules. it shall be referred to the Government in Administrative Department for a decision.
